

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims currently pending in the application:

26. (Currently amended) A method of forming a coated metal strand for use in tires, comprising:

separating filaments of a twisted multi-filament metal strand from one another to form a space between the filaments;

coating each filament with liquid rubber material when the filaments are separated; and re-twisting the filaments to reform the metal strand.

27. (Original) The method of claim 26 including applying a primer coating to the filaments prior to the coating step.

28. (Original) The method of claim 26 including applying a second coating of rubber material to the re-twisted strand.

29. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the second coating is applied by extrusion molding.

30-45. (Withdrawn)

46. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the primer coating is formed by plating.